

SAN FRANCISCO BAY AREA WATER EMERGENCY TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY
MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

(November 4, 2021)

The Board of Directors of the San Francisco Bay Area Water Emergency Transportation Authority met in regular session via videoconference consistent with AB 361 as codified in Government Code Section 54953.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Vice Chair Monique Moyer called the meeting to order at 1:07 p.m. She explained that Chair James Wunderman would be joining shortly but would get the meeting started. She welcomed directors, staff, and meeting guests and noted that the meeting was being recorded. She advised guests about offering public comment and how guests could sign up to speak throughout the meeting.

2. ROLL CALL

Vice Chair Monique Moyer, Director Jessica Alba, Director Jeffrey DelBono, and Director Anthony Intintoli were in attendance.

3. REPORTS OF DIRECTORS

Vice Chair Moyer mentioned that the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) had issued their federal temporary order on the federal requirements related to COVID vaccinations and/or testing for companies of 100 employees or more. She thanked staff for their efforts in supporting the Giants and Warriors.

4. REPORT OF BOARD CHAIR

Chair James Wunderman joined the meeting at 1:10 p.m. He reported the passing of Alameda County Supervisor Wilma Chan and suggested that the meeting be adjourned in her honor. Chair Wunderman said that he was pleased to see that the California Air Resources Board (CARB) had considered WETA's recommendations related to harbor craft regulations.

5. REPORTS OF STAFF

Executive Director Seamus Murphy asked Chief Financial Officer Erin McGrath to introduce new staff, Accountant Sherry Saepanh who most recently worked at the County of Marin.

Mr. Murphy reported on the first WETA Business Plan workshop engagement and that a summary would be shared including next steps. He invited Transportation Planner Taylor Rutsch to provide a summary the Metropolitan Transportation Commission (MTC) and the Association of Bay Area Governments' (ABAG) on Plan Bay Area 2050 which included expansions to Berkeley, Mission Bay, and Redwood City as well as service enhancements on all existing routes as approved by the WETA Board. Mr. Rutsch stated that MTC/ABAG formally adopted the plan and noted that the projects were rated on their environmental, economic, and equity impacts to the region using a cost benefit ratio and equity score developed by MTC staff.

Mr. Murphy said that WETA was pleased with the amendment revisions that would be presented to the CARB Board for approval relating to emergency response and funding eligibility for proceeding

with an alternative compliance plan. He reported that WETA had received an additional \$10.6 million from MTC from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) and that WETA would submit an application to compete for another \$2.2 billion Federal Transit Administration (FTA) grant program for supplemental ARPA funding.

Mr. Murphy stated that virtual meetings were allowed to continue under state legislation but that counties were moving forward with different requirements for meeting in person. He said that it was time for WETA to think about meeting in person to communicate and give the perception that riding transit in person was also safe adding that a firm proposal and recommendation would be brought to the Board in December.

Mr. Murphy provided five written reports and offered to answer questions.

The Directors thanked staff for the positive news relating to the CARB changes. They commented that it was important to return to some sense of normality by meeting in person and that a hybrid method would allow WETA to meet in various cities in the region and capture parties that might not otherwise be able to attend in person.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

Director DelBono made a motion to approve the consent calendar:

- a. Adopt a Resolution in Accordance with Assembly Bill 361 Finding that the Proclaimed State of Emergency Continues to Impact the Ability to Meet Safely in Person
- b. Board Meeting Minutes – October 7, 2021
- c. Approve Board of Directors Meeting Schedule for Calendar Year 2022
- d. Authorize Execution of Documents for Transit and Intercity Rail Capital Program
- e. Authorize Submission of State Transit Assistance Claim
- f. Authorize Release of a Request for Proposal for an Integrated Fare Ticketing System

Chair Wunderman called for public comments on the consent calendar, and there were none.

Director Intintoli seconded the motion, and the consent calendar carried unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Intintoli, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None.

7. APPROVE REVISIONS TO THE ADMINISTRATIVE CODE TO ADDRESS THE FTA'S FINDINGS IN THE FISCAL YEAR 2021 TRIENNIAL REVIEW FINAL REPORT

Mr. Murphy presented this item recommending approval of the revisions to the Administrative Code to address the FTA's findings in the Fiscal Year 2021 Triennial Review Final Report.

The five findings were in the area of procurement, one of which require revisions to the Administrative Code to include specific language that WETA historically includes in individual procurement documents. The revisions help proposers responding to procurements understand exactly what WETA is seeking to procure, the requirements that proposers need to fulfill in order to be competitive for those procurements, and the evaluation factors that would be used to make a decision.

Mr. Murphy said that the other four items are small changes to the procurement checklist that can be handled administratively by staff.

Director Intintoli made a motion to approve the item.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

Director Alba seconded the motion, and the item passed unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Intintoli, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None.

8. AUTHORIZE RELEASE OF A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES FOR THE REPLACEMENT VESSEL – MV INTINTOLI PROJECT

Engineering & Maintenance Administrator Jeffery Powell presented this item authorizing release of a Request for Proposal (RFP) for Construction Management Services for the Replacement Vessel – MV *Intintoli* project (Project), pending FTA approval of WETA's proposed Disadvantaged Business Enterprise (DBE) project goal.

Mr. Powell stated that the intent was to release an RFP for a price blind competition. He introduced Government & Regulatory Affairs Manager Lauren Gulate to elaborate on the overall DBE goals.

In response to Director's questions, Mr. Powell said that the vessel would be a 250 to 350-passenger ferry focusing on a zero-emission vessel. Mr. Murphy stated that the procurement of a zero-emission vessel would give WETA the opportunity to start implementing its alternative compliance plan that is awaiting approval from CARB. Ms. Gulate reminded the Board that WETA hosted outreach events but that specialized expertise required in the maritime industry limited the number of qualified DBEs. Operations & Maintenance Manager Timothy Hanners stated that the mid-range vessel would serve Alameda and Oakland and possibly a future Berkeley and Mission Bay route.

Director Intintoli made a motion to approve the item.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

Director DelBono seconded the motion, and the item passed unanimously.

Yeas: Alba, DelBono, Intintoli, Moyer, Wunderman. Nays: None. Absent: None.

9. BERKELEY PIER/FERRY STUDY AND FERRY SERVICE BUSINESS PLAN UPDATE

Principal Planner Michael Gougherty presented this informational item on a development project between the City of Berkeley and WETA to jointly build a dual-use ferry terminal and recreational facility. He introduced the City of Berkeley Parks, Recreation & Waterfront Deputy Director Christina Erickson to comment on the community engagement work and next steps and acknowledged Waterfront Manager Alexandra Endress.

Mr. Gougherty shared his presentation which included the phases of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and key messages from the community. In response to Director Intintoli, Mr. Murphy stated that this project was dependent upon Regional Measure 3 (RM 3).

Mr. Gougherty invited CDM Smith Bill Hurrell and EPS Executive Vice President Ashleigh Kanat to present some preliminary findings from the WETA Berkeley Ferry Service Business Plan which include a service plan, ridership and market demand, and equity considerations.

Mr. Gougherty presented the alternatives that were evaluated for the waterside concept plan and a rendering of the preferred conceptual alternative along with its estimated costs.

The Directors thanked staff for the presentation and their hard work. They expressed their concerns about ensuring that the project could be funded and service operated without impacting the current WETA system.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

10. WETA EMERGENCY RESPONSE UPDATE

Government & Regulatory Affairs Manager Lauren Gularte began by introducing new staff Government & Regulatory Affairs Specialist Terence Candell. She stated that Mr. Candell would be working on emergency response and the DBE and legislative programs.

Ms. Gularte provided an overview of the emergency response plans, WETA's role in the regional emergency framework, various validation exercises, and the staff training program.

Ms. Gularte introduced Planning & Development Manager Kevin Connolly to discuss a new service planning tool to rapidly respond to requests for information developed by Mr. Rutsch who provided an explanation of the output based upon certain assumptions and constraints.

In response to Chair Wunderman, Mr. Hanners stated that as part of the electric and infrastructure study that standby generators would be used to provide power for the batteries on the float and the electric vessels.

Director DeBono expressed his disappointment of the cancellation of Urban Shield, an exercise that brings a multitude of agencies together.

Ms. Gularte confirmed that government employees are disaster service workers in response to Vice Chair Moyer. Vice Chair Moyer suggested that the service planning tool be enhanced to include other variables and to figure out ways to communicate WETA's emergency response role.

The Directors thanked Ms. Gularte and the team for the presentation and stated that the exercises, training, and planning tools were beneficial.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

11. PANDEMIC RECOVERY PROGRAM MARKETING AND OUTREACH CAMPAIGN UPDATE

Public Information & Marketing Manager Thomas Hall presented this informational item explaining the objectives of the marketing campaign and providing ad metrics.

Mr. Hall said that the digital media advertising campaign included programmatic display, search, social video, and standard social media ads. He added that WETA has received heavy media coverage and thanked and recognized Sarah Egerman, Daniel Hutson, and Janis MacKenzie of MacKenzie Communications for their strategic thinking and creativity to get the campaign launched.

The Directors thanked Mr. Hall for the presentation, the success of the Pandemic Recovery Program, and the staff of Blue & Gold Fleet.

Chair Wunderman called for public comments, and there were none.

12. PUBLIC COMMENTS FOR NON-AGENDA ITEMS

No further public comments were shared.

Director DelBono commented that Supervisor Chan will be missed. She was tough but compassionate and was always helping the community, especially the underserved.

With all business concluded, Chair Wunderman adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m. in memory of Supervisor Chan.

- Board Secretary

END